Docket No.: 43890-463

PATENT SI403

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Toshiki KINDO, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 08, 2000

Examiner:

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE RETRIEVAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as

follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 1, please delete " or claim 2".

Claim 6, line 1, please delete " or claim 5".

Please add new claims 13 and 14 as follows:

BUB AI

13. The method of retrieving an image as defined in claim 2, wherein the image is

displayed in order of precedence.

14. The apparatus for retrieving an image as defined in claim 5, wherein the image is

displayed in order of precedence.

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